REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. An RCE accompanies this Amendment. This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed June 13, 2006, which was made final. Claims 1, 2, 5-13, 16-20, 23-27 and 30-38 are rejected.

In this Amendment, claims 1, 12, 19, and 26 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicants reserve all right with respect to the applicability of the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 5-13, 16-20, 23-27 and 30-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner states that "it is unclear when 'the data received from the first part is not received into a jitter buffer'."

Applicants respectfully remind the Examiner the definiteness of claim language must be analyzed in light of the teachings of the prior art and the specification as it would be interpreted by one of skill in the art [MPEP 2173.02]. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 8, 12, 19, and 26, satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and associated dependent claims under § 112. Applicant respectfully submits that one of ordinary skill in the communications arts would understand from the specification and drawings that while the jitter buffer recited in claims 1, 8, 12, 19, and 26 receive data from a destination subscriber and an add-on subscriber, they do not receive data from an originating subscriber.

<u>Objections to the Drawings under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a)</u>

The Examiner objected to the drawings, stating that the drawings do not show the "a jitter buffer" recited in claim 1. Applicants have amended claim 1, so as to recite a "first or second jitter buffer." Support for said language is found in at least respective reference numerals 305 and 309 in Figure 3 of the drawings.

<u>Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)</u>

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 5-6, 8-13, 16-17, 19-20, 23-24, 26-27, 30-31 and 33-37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Shaffer, et al. (USPN 6,973,184, "Shaffer").

<u>Claims 1-7, 12-27, 30-38</u>

In independent claims 1, 12, 19, and 26, applicants claim sending output data from the first jitter buffer and the second jitter buffer to a multiplexing device or a plurality of multiplexing devices. Applicants respectfully submit that Shaffer does not teach or suggest these limitations.

Shaffer discloses providing the ability to a listener to receive a unique directional cue for two speakers on two ends of a conference table. (Shaffer, col. 3, lines 1-3).

The Examiner refers to Shaffer's Figure 8 as teaching these limitations. Shaffer's Figure 8 discloses a corresponding decoder to decode voice packets. (Shaffer, col. 9, line 46). Shaffer reads as follows:

> The decoding device uses the relative delay to drive a playout splitter--once the encoded audio payload has been decoded, the playout splitter creates multiple presentation channels by inserting a relative delay in the decoded signal for one (or more) of the presentation channels. The listener thus perceives the speaker's voice as originating from a location related to the speaker's actual orientation to the microphones at the other end of the conference.

(Shaffer, col. 2, lines 11-34).

Thus, Shaffer discloses that decoded voice packets are split using a playout splitter. Thus, Shaffer does not teach sending output data from the first jitter buffer and the second jitter buffer to a *multiplexing device* or a plurality of multiplexing devices, as claimed.

As such, Shaffer does not anticipate independent claims 1, 12, 19, and 26, and associated dependent claims.

Claims 8-11

Claim 8 recites "a jitter buffer logic block for a multi-stream voice application, the jitter buffer logic block to receive data from a destination subscriber and an add-on subscriber, and not from an originating subscriber."

In contrast, Shaffer discloses a jitter buffer in a decoder to store voice samples that have been parsed from encoded voice packets. (Shaffer, col. 9, lines 45-60). Shaffer is silent about and does not teach or suggest jitter buffer logic block to receive data from a destination subscriber and an add-on subscriber, and not from an originating subscriber, as claimed. As such, Shaffer does not anticipate independent claim 8, and associated dependent claims 9-11.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 7, 18, 25, 32 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaffer in view of alleged knowledge in the art.

As discussed, Shaffer does not teach or suggest each and every limitation of claims 1, 8, 12, 19, and 26. Therefore, Shaffer does not anticipate or render obvious associated dependent claims 7, 18, 25, 32 and 38.
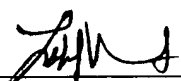
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then applicants hereby request such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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